



Nursery Newsletter Autumn 1 2023

Welcome to Nursery at St. Joseph's Catholic Academy.

Your child starting 'big school' is a momentous occasion in their and your lives, so we hope to make the transition into school happy and successful. We aim to support the children in their growing confidence and independence from the very beginning.

Everyday is exciting and full of new learning opportunities in Nursery.

This newsletter will give you some information about some of things we'll be getting up to between now and October half-term.

It will also give you important things to remember.



Mathematics

To begin with, the children will explore colours.

We will then move on to matching objects which are the same colour, size or shape.

Next, the children will learn to sort objects by size, colour and shape. Children will use gestures and language such as bigger/little/small.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Our focus initially is to establish routines and build relationships. Children will become familiar with the environment this half term.

Children will be learning independence when going to the toilet, washing hands and accessing water bottles.

Physical Development

On Wednesdays, the children will have a multi-skills PE lesson with Mrs Grange.

On Fridays, we will do our music and movement PE lesson with Mrs Byrne.

We will use the outdoors to develop the children's gross motor skills.

Communication and Language

We will learn a new nursery rhyme each week. A copy will be sent home with your child, so that you can learn them at home too. We will begin with these this half-term:

1,2,3,4,5 Once I caught a Fish Alive

1 potato, 2 potato, 3 potato, 4

5 Little Speckled Frogs

5 Little Ducks went swimming One Day

5 Currant Buns

5 Fat Sausages

Understanding the World

We will learn the days of the week as part of our morning routine. We will also discuss the weather.

Our autumn walks will enable the children to explore nature.

Literacy

Here's some of the texts we'll explore:

The Colour Monster
The Scarecrows' Wedding
Goldilocks and the Three Bears

We'll also look at non-fiction books about families, our bodies and Autumn.

In phonics, we will begin by listening to environmental sounds.



Expressive Arts and Design

In nursery, we have a musical instrument station where the children can choose to explore sounds. The children will also have a weekly music session with Mrs Cliffe on Thursdays.

A class project will involve using different resources to make a St. Joseph's scarecrow!

RE

We will talk about some of the natural world we can see outside linked to God's creations.

We will be learning our four daily prayers.

Items to Remember

Please ensure that your child arrives each day to Nursery with the following items:

- ♦ St. Joseph's blue book bag. A keyring with your child's name on is useful to identify it.
- ♦ Filled water bottle containing just water
- ♦ Waterproof coat
- ♦ Lunch box (if needed)
- ♦ Please provide £1 snack money for the week.

The items below should stay in the Nursery:

- ♦ Spare uniform, pants and socks in a labelled carrier bag
- ♦ PE kit with black pumps or velcro trainers. No earrings in on PE days please.
- ♦ Wellies

During the winter, please send your child to school with a warm coat, hat, scarf and gloves. During the summer, please send your child to school with a sun hat and sun cream.

Please put your child's name in their uniform, PE kits and ALL other belongings.

Dates to Remember

Meet the Teacher

Wednesday
27th September
3.30-4pm

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 29th
September 9.30
-10.30

Individual and Sibling Photos

Tuesday 17th
October

Parents Evening

Monday 23rd
October

Please bring chatter boxes into school as soon as possible, so these can be shared.

If you haven't shown your child's birth certificate to the office, can you please do this as soon as possible.



Please can children not play on the equipment before and after school as we are not insured.

Reading at Home

Sharing books and stories with children helps them to learn new words and grows their vocabulary.

You will soon receive a school library book which you can share with your child at home. Please talk about the story/pictures as well as reading it. You could ask:

What is the boy/girl doing in the picture?

How is he/she feeling?

Why is she feeling.....?

Did you like the story? Why?

Our class author this year is Oliver Jeffers. It would be great if you could read some of his books at home too. Visit the library to see which you can find there.

Evidence Me

Over the next few weeks, all parents/carers will be added to 'Evidence Me.' This will allow you to access your child's individual learning journey. You will also be able to add photos and comments about things you are doing at home that links to their learning.

Staff



Mrs Byrne
Class Teacher



Mrs Cunningham
Early Years'
Teaching
Assistant



Mrs Robinson
Early Years'
Assistant



Miss Mogford
Teacher

You will see Miss Mogford in Nursery too. She is with us until she begins her maternity leave.

Questions or Queries?

If you have any questions or worries, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of the nursery team. The best time is at the end of the school day, or alternatively you can contact the school office to book an appointment.